

apparent savings. The two final sections concern other health and medical programs for industrial workers, including partial information on prepayment medical care plans, governmental industrial hygiene services, disability programs and various vocational rehabilitation programs.

The detailed information on national income, the labor force, and the type and size in industrial establishments is of considerable interest. The data are supposedly correct up to the time of publication, September 1950. The summary of the historical development of industrial health and medical care is something which should be of interest to all physicians currently in practice. Such dates as the initiation of the plan to keep hospital beds occupied (Blue Cross), to keep private medicine out of political control (Blue Shield), etc., are duly listed.

The information on types and extent of plant health and medical services is of interest, but like so much documentary information of this type does not and cannot tell the full story. The "planners' program is often quite different from the actual one. The final section on health programs, disability programs and welfare agency groups clearly foreshadows further extension of government or union labor into medical care plans. Physicians, read and be forewarned. Young physicians, read and plan accordingly.

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**THE KIDNEY—Structure and Function in Health and Disease.** By Homer W. Smith, A.B., Sc.D., M.S., Professor of Physiology, New York University College of Medicine. Oxford University Press, New York, 1951. 1049 pages. \$12.50.

For two decades Homer W. Smith has applied himself to the problem of renal physiology. From the depths of his own knowledge, and with breadth of scholarship which has carried him ably from the healthy lung-fish to ailing man, he has now compiled a monumental classic describing our present understanding of renal function and related topics.

As might be expected from the author of "The Physiology of the Kidney" (1937), this work devotes much of its space to normal physiology. There are detailed accounts of glomerular filtration, tubular reabsorption and excretion, the effects of antidiuretic and of adrenocortical hormones, excretion of sodium and other electrolytes, acid-base equilibria, renal circulation, effects upon the kidney of various hormones, vitamins and diets, renal function in the very young and in the aged, and comparative physiology. Material of this sort occupies about half the book; in it will be found much of interest not only to physiologists but also to clinicians and pharmacologists.

More than 300 pages are then concerned with the kidney in abnormal states; important general headings include proteinuria, disturbances of salt and water balance, disturbed renal function in non-renal diseases, congestive heart failure, essential hypertension, acute renal failure, glomerulonephritis, pyelonephritis, the nephrotic syndrome, and the actions of diuretics. In this section one is pleased to find not only extensive (and very recent) references to the literature, but also Smith's personal views on such controversial subjects as Trueta's shunt, "lower nephron nephrosis," and the role of the kidney in the pathogenesis of congestive failure and hypertension.

There is relatively little discussion of structure and no attempt to illustrate lesions, the author wisely having left this to others who are trained in pathology. The index seems rather brief, yet is adequate when used thoughtfully. There is an extensive bibliography, in which the works of Thomas Addis and his followers are prominent. The physical appearance is attractive. Oddly enough, one feels a sense of reassurance in noting a small number of minor typographical errors. It is almost superfluous to add that the book is recommended most highly.

**HANDBOOK OF MEDICAL MANAGEMENT (2nd Edition).** By Milton Chatton, A.B., M.D., Instructor in Medicine; Sheldon Margen, A.M., M.D., Clinical Instructor in Medicine; and Henry D. Brainerd, A.B., M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, all of University of California School of Medicine. University Medical Publishers, Post Office Box 761, Palo Alto, 1951. 508 pages. \$3.00.

This highly compressed and intelligently opinionated manual is written primarily from the viewpoint of medical management in hospital and clinic practice. However, it can be heartily recommended for the desk and bag of the practicing physician as well as for the pocket of the student and house officer.

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**A FEW BUTTONS MISSING—The Case Book of a Psychiatrist.** By James T. Fisher, M.D., and Lowell S. Hawley, J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1951. 282 pages. \$3.50.

The cleverness and humor of the title of this book, "A Few Buttons Missing," so aptly describing many of a psychiatrist's patients, extend throughout the whole volume.

It is the story of the professional and personal life of a psychiatrist, 87 years young. Beautifully written, full of wit, humor, human interest and common sense, it should appeal to both laymen and physicians. The author's down-to-earth attitude toward the intricacies of psychiatry is pleasing.

Your reviewer believes you will be delighted with this book.

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**PIONEER DOCTOR.** By Lewis J. Moorman, M.D., University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, 1951. 252 pages. \$3.75.

This account of the life and experiences of a country doctor, who later became a specialist in a large city, is well written and will be of interest to physicians and laymen.

The first half of the book, dealing with the author's years in general practice, is especially interesting. The second half is less so; for, in dealing with his experiences as a phthisiologist, the author has included much that is too commonplace for physicians and rather uninteresting for laymen. But, all in all, it is quite worthwhile.

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**EYE MANIFESTATIONS OF INTERNAL DISEASES (MEDICAL OPHTHALMOLOGY).** By I. S. Tassman, M.D., Associate Professor of Ophthalmology, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Attending Surgeon, Wills Eye Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa. Third Edition. 279 illustrations, including 25 in color. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1951. 672 pages. \$12.00.

The second edition of this text of medical ophthalmology was reviewed in CALIFORNIA MEDICINE (p. 105, Feb. 1947). The third edition has added 60 pages; it contains a revision of the subject of glaucoma and additions on a variety of other subjects. It retains, however, most of the defects pointed out in the earlier review (one exception: it is rewarding to note that the discussions on treatment now acknowledge the existence of penicillin). It still fails to achieve its avowed and worthy purpose of integrating ophthalmology into internal medicine.

The book has its principal use for the student of ophthalmology. As far as the internist is concerned, it is a "reference in reverse," to which he can turn only rarely. An example of its limitations may be found on pages 320 and 321, the section on rheumatoid arthritis: There is a fairly adequate summary of the general and joint aspects of the disease, too elementary to be of use to the internist or the general practitioner, but perhaps informative enough for the purpose of the ophthalmologist. On the other hand, uveitis, which may occur in this disease, is barely mentioned, although discussion of it would be of distinct aid to the internist.